IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA AT CHARLESTON

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v. CRIMINAL NO. 2:20-00003

ANDREW MARTIN HOPKINS

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

Pending before the court is defendant's motion to continue. (ECF No. 25). In support of defendant's motion, counsel for the defendant states that he needs additional time to prepare this case for trial, given that he was just recently appointed to represent defendant. Counsel for defendant needs additional time to acquire and review discovery, which he anticipates will be voluminous, as well as to investigate appropriate defenses. The government does not object to the motion to continue.

Because failure to grant the requested continuance would likely result in a miscarriage of justice, the court finds that the ends of justice outweigh the best interest of the defendant and the public in a speedy trial, see 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), and GRANTS defendant's motion to continue. In deciding to grant defendant's motion, the court considered the factors outlined in 18 U.S.C. §3161(h)(7)(B) and found that failure to grant the continuance would deny counsel for the defendant the reasonable time necessary to effectively prepare for trial, taking into account the exercise of due diligence.

Accordingly, the court hereby ORDERS as follows:

- Trial of this action is continued until June 16, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., in Charleston;
- 2. All pretrial motions are to be filed by May 25, 2020;
- 3. A pretrial motions hearing is scheduled for June 1, 2020, at 2:00 p.m., in Charleston;
- 4. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), the time from the filing of defendant's motion until the trial is excludable for purposes of the Speedy Trial Act.

The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Order to counsel of record, the United States Marshal for the Southern District of West Virginia and the Probation Office of this court.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 3rd day of March, 2020.

ENTER:

David A. Faber

Senior United States District Judge